

I CLAIM:

1. An adjustable dilator assembly comprising:
an elongated hollow housing that terminates at one end in a cannula and
defines a longitudinal axial through passage; and
5 a probe mounted for adjustable axial movement within the housing and
cannula.
2. The adjustable dilator assembly of claim 1, wherein at least a distal
end portion of the probe is pliable.
3. The adjustable dilator assembly of claim 2, wherein the distal end
10 portion of the probe is offset laterally.
4. The adjustable dilator assembly of claim 1, wherein the probe is
fixedly secured to a probe carriage axially adjustable with the hollow housing.
5. The adjustable dilator assembly of claim 4, wherein the probe is
integral with the probe carriage.
- 15 6. The adjustable dilator assembly of claim 4, wherein the probe and the
probe carriage are unitary.
7. The adjustable dilator assembly of claim 4, wherein the hollow
housing is provided with internal threads and the probe carriage is provided with
external threads for threadable engagement therewith.
- 20 8. The adjustable dilator assembly of claim 4, wherein the probe
carriage is elongated and has a distal end portion as well as a proximal end portion,
wherein the probe is mounted to the distal end portion of the probe carriage, and
wherein the proximal end portion carries an exfoliation device.
9. The adjustable dilator assembly of claim 8, wherein the exfoliation
25 device is an abrasive surface on said distal end portion.
10. The adjustable dilator assembly of claim 8, wherein the exfoliation
device is a brush carried by said distal end portion.

11. The adjustable dilator assembly of claim 1, wherein a socket for receiving an injection device is present at a proximal end portion of the hollow housing.

5 12. The adjustable dilator assembly of claim 11, wherein the socket defines a female luer taper.

13. The adjustable dilator assembly of claim 1, wherein a distal end portion of the probe includes a taper and terminates in a rounded tip.

14. The adjustable dilator assembly of claim 1, wherein the probe is removably secured to a probe carriage.

10 15. The adjustable dilator assembly of claim 11, wherein the probe is retractable from the probe carriage.

16. The adjustable dilator assembly of claim 1, wherein the probe is carried by a probe carriage that defines a through passage in fluid communication with the through passage of the hollow housing.

15 17. The adjustable dilator assembly of claim 16, wherein the probe carriage is provided with a socket for receiving an injection device.

18. The adjustable dilator assembly of claim 17, wherein the socket defines a female luer taper.

20 19. The adjustable dilator assembly of claim 16, wherein the probe carriage further includes an injection device unitary therewith.

20. The adjustable dilator assembly of claim 16, wherein the probe carriage further includes a branch passage.

21. The adjustable dilator assembly of claim 20, wherein the probe includes a stop.

25 22. The adjustable dilator assembly of claim 20, wherein the branch passage includes a peripheral seal.

23. The adjustable dilator assembly of claim 1, wherein a distal end portion of the probe includes a brushing device.

24. The adjustable dilator assembly of claim 1, wherein a distal end portion of the probe is porous.

25. An adjustable dilator assembly comprising:

5 an elongated hollow housing that terminates at one end in a cannula, has an opposite open end, and defines an internally threaded axial through passageway in communication with the cannula;

an elongated, externally threaded probe carriage threadably received into the elongated hollow housing through the open end thereof, having a threaded distal end portion and a proximal end portion provided with a grip; and

10 a probe mounted to the probe carriage at the distal end portion thereof, extendable through the cannula, and mounted for adjustable axial movement within the housing and the cannula in response to manipulation of the probe carriage.

26. The adjustable dilator assembly in accordance with claim 22 wherein the proximal end portion carries an exfoliation device.

15 27. The adjustable dilator assembly in accordance with claim 26, wherein the exfoliation device is a brush.

28. The adjustable dilator assembly in accordance with claim 26, wherein the exfoliation device is an abrasive surface.